

Covid-19 vaccines for 12-15 year olds

Frequently Asked Questions



Who made the decision?

- Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MRHA) decide if medicines are clinically safe
- Joint Committee on Vaccine and Immunisation (JCVI) make recommendations about the use of all vaccines and immunisations
- Chief Medical Officer (CMO) is a doctor and is the most senior advisor on anything related to health
- Ministers make the final decision



How was the decision made?

- MRHA made the decision that the vaccine is safe for 12-15 year olds
- JCVI looked at the risks of Covid-19 and the vaccine on physical health of individual children and those they live with
- CMO made a recommendation about the vaccine for impact on other aspects of life (missing school) and on wider communities
- Ministers decided based on this advice

Your questions – answered

- Are there side effects for children who have the vaccine?
 - Children might have side effects like with other vaccines, however should be mild. If they continue after a few days, please call 111 for advise.
- Can they have the Covid-19 vaccine at similar times as other vaccines?
 - It is safe to get the Covid-19 vaccine and others close together
- Do they have to have it?
 - It's not mandatory, so they don't have to. It's a discussion that's needed between you and your child.
- What happens if my child doesn't have it at school? Will it be too late to have it?
 - It is never too late to get the vaccine. Your child can also get the vaccine at several community vaccine walk-in clinics for 12-15 year olds but they must be accompanied by a parent/carer. Check our website for available clinics.
- Can you get Covid-19 from the vaccine?
 - There is no Covid-19 in the vaccine, so you cannot catch it from having the vaccination.
- Is there alcohol in the vaccine?
 - The vaccine is halal, kosher, vegan and contains no alcohol.